

ANDROGEN MISANTHROPY

the same god who gave to some boys
the gift of extra sex hormones
attached the side effect of acne vulgaris
to assure that they wouldn't get laid.

THE THIN PINK LINE

the nice thing about a single girl
is that she has the time and place
to be with you.

the nice thing about a married woman
is that she doesn't.

this is also the bad thing
about them both.

THE ULTIMATE OBSCENITY

a minister calls the talk show
to brand the epidemics of herpes and a.i.d.s.
a visitation of the lord upon us
for our promiscuity and perversions.
he does not exclude the innocently infected
dead children.

when the talk show host attempts to characterize
the minister's god as "vengeful,"
he rejects this term,
biblical though it may be,
in favor of "just."

NOT EVEN ACNE, WHICH GOES DEEPER

there is literally nothing more superficial than a tan.

THE KIND OF YEAR IT'S BEEN

we're well into december
and i finally had something happen
worth celebrating,

so i sliced my thumb
on the champagne foil.

-- Gerald Locklin

Long Beach CA